

VZCZCXRO8375
OO RUEHDA
DE RUEHAK #1673/01 1791324
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
O 281324Z JUN 07
FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2795
RUEKJCS/CJCS WASHDC IMMEDIATE
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE
RUEKJCS/OSD WASHDC//PA
RUEUITH/ODC ANKARA TU
INFO RUEHTH/AMEMBASSY ATHENS 8189
RUEHIT/AMCONSUL ISTANBUL 2952
RUEHDA/AMCONSUL ADANA 2086
RUEHBS/AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS 5987
RUEHBS/USEU BRUSSELS
RUEHNO/USMISSION USNATO 5784
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 2391
RUEUITH/DET 1 39LG ANKARA TU
RHMFIUU/USDOCO 6ATAF IZMIR TU
RHMFIUU/39OS INCIRLIK AB TU
RHMFIUU/AFOSI DET 523 IZMIR TU
RHMFIUU/39ABG INCIRLIK AB TU
RHMFIUU/AFOSI DET 522 INCIRLIK AB TU
RUEUITH/AFLO ANKARA TU

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 ANKARA 001673

SIPDIS

SIPDIS

DEPARTMENT FOR INR/R/MR, EUR/SE, EUR/PD, NEA/PD, DRL
JCS PASS J-5/CDR S. WRIGHT

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [OPRC](#) [KMDR](#) [TU](#)

SUBJECT: ANKARA MEDIA REACTION REPORT

THURSDAY, JUNE 28, 2007

In Today's Papers

Restructuring of Turkish Military against the PKK

All papers report that as part of the media tour to Commando Training School in Isparta-Egirdir yesterday, TGS Chief Buyukanit and Land Forces Commander General Ilker Basbug answered questions at a press conference. General Basbug said at the press conference that the fight against PKK terrorists will be carried out by Special Forces which will consist of all professionals. Mainstream Hurriyet reports that the six commando brigade members, which are responsible for domestic security, will be replaced by professional commandos by [12009](#).

General Buyukanit Comments on Cross-Border Operation

All papers report that at the press conference at Egirdir, TGS Chief General Buyukanit reiterated the need for a cross-border operation into northern Iraq. General Buyukanit was quoted as saying "we cannot say that we will enter the north of Iraq and eradicate the PKK, but such a move will be a serious blow to the terrorist organization." Responding to a question General Buyukanit said "obviously, we had various requests and demands from the US. At this point, we cannot say that the US extended sufficient support to our fight against PKK." While PM Erdogan told reporters that he could not comment on General Buyukanit remarks until evaluating them, in an exclusive interview with Islamic oriented Yeni Safak Foreign Minister Gul said "all options are on the table and I couldn't say that a cross border operation wouldn't take place before the elections."

Papers and TV channels report that US State Department Spokesman Sean McCormack said that "the US doesn't think an operation into Iraq from Turkey is going to help the situation, either in the short, medium, or long term" and that "the solution here is to have the Turkish Government and the Iraqi Government work together to address what is a common threat."

Iraqi PM Maliki will not Come to Turkey in the near Future

Leftist-nationalist Cumhuriyet reports that while attending the energy conference in Istanbul, Maliki's spokesperson Ali-al-Debbag said that PM Nouri Al-Maliki would not be able to pay a visit to Turkey in the near future. This message disturbed the AKP government since they were hoping to host Maliki before June 30.

Turkey to Pay Back Assets to an Armenian Foundation
Mainstream Milliyet reports that the European Court of Human Rights (ECHR) ruled that Turkey should return the assets of Yedikule Surp Pirgic Armenian Hospital Foundation, seized in 1998. The ECHR ordered Turkey to pay 15,000 Euro court expenses as well.

TV Highlights NTV

Domestic News

- Two people in Turkey died yesterday due to excessive heat
- 8 PKK terrorists were killed in Sirnak during security operations.
- Council of State member Zehra Ayla Perktas was appointed to the Constitutional Court by President Sezer
- An explosion in Gaziantep damaged the last car of a freight train bound for Syria from Adana

International News

- Gordon Brown took over Britain's leadership from Tony Blair

ANKARA 00001673 002 OF 002

- Israeli forces killed 12 Palestinians in a raid in Gaza
- WILSON